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**From:** Mroszczyk, Alice (DPH)  
**Sent:** Friday, October 24, 2008 9:55 AM  
**To:** Anderson, William (DPH)  
**Subject:** FW: Data Liaison updates and meeting 10/29

Hi Bill,  
If you weren't already in the middle of it, would you please send the meeting cancellation (calendar)?  
Thanks!  
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**From:** Mroszczyk, Alice (DPH)  
**Sent:** Friday, October 24, 2008 9:52 AM  
**To:** Anderson, William (DPH); Bilansky, Arnold (DPH); Bilodeau, Peter (DPH); Bimbashi, Erti (DPH); Caceres, Isabel (DPH); Caloggero, Dina (DPH); Collins, Rachel (DPH); Diop, Hafsatou (DPH); Foster, Kevin (DPH); Hanchett, Andrew (DPH); Hawk, Elena (DPH); Hobbs, Sylvia (DPH); Hood, Malena (DPH); Hume, Beth (DPH); John, Betsey (DPH); Knorr, Robert (DPH); MacMillan, Annie (DPH); Mello, Phil (DPH); Miller, Tracy (DPH); Mitra, Monika (DPH); Mroszczyk, Alice (DPH); Murphy, James (DPH); Ohannessian, Dana (DPH); Rowe, Dan (DPH); Sinatra, Andrew (DPH); Tran, Loc (DPH); Troppy, Scott (DPH)  
**Subject:** Data Liaison updates and meeting 10/29

Good morning,  
The agenda for next week's meeting consisted of updates and announcements, so rather than ask everyone to take time to attend a meeting, I am again cancelling the Data Liaison meeting scheduled for 10/29. PLEASE read the updates below:

Although Jim Daniel and I had been planning to hold a Department-wide brown bag discussion of data use and storage best practices, we scaled back a bit and began the discussion with one bureau. The first meeting was very helpful, and we would like to include all bureaus in future discussions. We focused on the use of hospital discharge data and the other DHCFP datasets. One of the goals is to streamline access to datasets that are used by multiple groups to avoid duplication of effort and storage, WHILE MAINTAINING SPEED and enhancing your ability to work. Other possibilities include sharing modified files and code/programming among different bureaus needing the same sources. Depending on data users' needs ITS may be able to suggest alternate technology to help things work better. More information will be sent out as our plans for further discussions develop.

The Registry of Vital Records and Statistics (RVRS) held a data users' meeting, largely focused on birth data, but future meetings will include discussion of death records and other RVRS datasets. The goal of these meetings is to enhance communication between data users and the RVRS, to discuss and learn more about specific data elements, as well as data reporting and collection processes. It is extremely important for you to provide feedback to the RVRS on issues that arise as you use their data. We will be expanding the list of invitees, so if you are interested in attending, please let me know. I will be sending a notice to everyone I have identified as a user of RVRS data. RVRS will plan to focus discussion for segments of the meetings on births or deaths, so you will be able to plan which to attend.

As many of you are aware, delivery of data from the Division of Health Care Finance and Policy has been delayed this year. The delay has been a result of multiple issues, including other work priorities for DHCFP and the changes in data collection and format, which have required additional work with hospitals. I am writing and calling them weekly (sometimes more often) to get updates on what to expect.

The Data Catalogue project is progressing; the work group is still waiting for reports from 2 bureaus, but Bill has designed a database and entered the information received thus far. Cassie Eckhof has been working on cleaning the

information and we will reconvene the workgroup for a final review and discussion after the last 2 bureaus' reports are in, (or will go forward without them). Bill and Cassie have been working with EOHHS on plans for the Healthnet implementation of the system.

Whenever new initiatives or changes to existing projects or programs are planned that include data collection, data use, changing technology, the Virtual Gateway, or the Data Warehouse, please remember to let the PDAO know about your plans as early in the process as possible!

If I have erred in my description of any of these activities, please feel free to offer additional or corrected information.

IF ANYONE HAS ISSUES TO BRING TO THE GROUP FOR FUTURE MEETINGS, PLEASE SEND THEM TO BILL AND ME. Comments and questions are welcome any time.

Thanks,  
Alice